

To Advertisers & the Public

THE DAILY BRITISH COLONIST, published every morning (except Saturday), is now in her Majesty's Possessions on the Pacific Coast, and will be widely distributed throughout the colonies. Resident Subscribers may have the same left at their residence at 25 cents per week, by sending their address at the Office of Publication.

THE WEEKLY BRITISH COLONIST, published every Tuesday, will be mailed or left at the residence of Subscribers, ready for mailing, at 25 cents per week, payable to the carrier.

JOB PRINTING.
THE BRITISH COLONIST PUBLISHING COMPANY having received a large order for the Stock now in hand, will be able to supply it in time, and will execute orders to any extent with neatness and despatch, at a slight advance on San Francisco prices.

BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES.

In future all notices of Births, Deaths, and Marriages intended for insertion in this paper must be paid for in advance, following the rates of Births and Marriages, \$1.00; for Deaths, \$1.00, with funeral notice, \$1.50.

THE COMMERCE OF VICTORIA ISLAND.

It is always a sad task to record a death, a serious illness, or even a casual misfortune; but it is very frequently necessary and wholesome duty not only to record it, but to ascertain the origin of the calamity. Human life is made up of so many stumbles and so many falls, that it is only by careful attention to the cause and nature of our blundering we can ever hope to walk erect. In this way many of our misfortunes, it has been said, frequently turn out blessings in disguise. The cholera, and even typhus fever, have taught us more clearly and more forcibly than the best medical authorities in the world that cleanliness and pure air are indispensable requisites of health. Philosophy might have prevailed in the ears of wealth till Doomsday, before active steps would have been taken to ameliorate the condition of the poor and convert their wretched dens and hovels into habitations for men. What philanthropy, what even duty pointed to in vain, self-preservation at once undertakes. The rich man cannot afford to have his home disrupted by vulgar epidemics that spring from poverty and filth; hence sanitary regulations. If we of Vancouver Island have hitherto been singularly blessed with an immunity from many of nature's dreaded visitations; but if we have escaped these calamities that waste and destroy the body, we have not been so free from similar misfortunes that waste and destroy the purse—catastrophes, as the world goes, almost equally to be dreaded as the Russian plague. Let us therefore not shrink from recording what is unpalatable, if by so doing we get a closer glimpse at the cause of evil, and, consequently, a clearer view to its removal.

At the commencement of the present year was disclosed the morbid condition of our body commercial. We took away the silver covering which, like the reluctant veil of the Eastern prophet, hid so much that was bad and diseased. What seemed to the superstitious multitude an object of worship turned out, when its real nature came to view, a base counterfeit, and the free-port fad, like many an ancient idol, was quickly buried in the dust. When a population find they have been deceived in institutions which they have been taught to worship, a kind of general scepticism arises that frequently tends to a no less dangerous extreme in the opposite direction. The people of Vancouver Island, however, did not rush to this extreme. They were content with dethroning the wretched fetish. The erection of a new idol, if indeed any policy could be again worshipped, was wisely postponed for more important changes. There never yet was an exploded talisman, however, which had not its defenders and apostles; there are indeed people still extant who believe that the sun revolves round the earth, just as there are unfortunate persons in Vancouver Island who believe that Victoria is the centre of the commercial system of the Pacific. The latter deluded victims are again erecting their old idol, although the very atmosphere around its body is fetid and laden with disease. As a statistical dose No. 1 brought the counterfeit to the ground, we shall apply dose No. 2 to keep him there.

The following figures which we have carefully compiled from the proper sources will show exactly how we stand, and how the free-port is progressing. For the nine months ending 30th of September we find our imports had reached \$2,242,166, giving for the year \$2,983,500. This shows a decrease on the imports of 1863 of nearly a million of dollars, and a decrease on those of last year of \$569,000. The falling off, unfortunately for the reputation of the "emporium of the Pacific," is chiefly in our English imports. In 1864 these amounted to \$1,408,000, while for the present year, taking the past nine months as a guide, we shall have but \$917,929—a diminution of thirty-five per cent.

A man must have a good deal of enthusiasm in his composition who can extract comfort out of this and an argument in favor of our present commercial policy, which was based entirely on the supposition that we would have an immense import trade with England. From California our imports have diminished about 16 per cent., the figures being in 1864 \$1,627,663, and in 1865 something less than \$1,370,000. From Oregon, however, there is an increase, which tells rather against us than otherwise; for while London and San Francisco are the great markets from which we obtain our merchandise for exportation, Portland is the place we depend upon largely for our necessities of life. While, therefore, our merchantable commodities are decreasing in extent, our provision imports, from Oregon at least, are on the increase. Last year the figures showed \$160,500, while this year we shall have something like \$190,300, or an increase of about nineteen per cent. Puget Sound shows a decrease of fourteen per cent., the imports for 1864 having been \$279,000, while the present year they will only reach \$240,000. The British Columbia imports are much the same as those of last year, which were \$81,000. Altogether the imports of 1865, including, besides the above, consignments from Valparaiso, China, and the Sandwich Islands, will show a decrease on those of 1864 of 18 per cent.

Much of the diminution in our imports may, no doubt, be attributed to the falling off in our population, a result in its turn of our free port policy; but we cannot overlook the great feature in the statistics we have just given and in others we have yet to give, and that is a continued failure of our free port itself. Every year our exports of merchandise are becoming smaller, until at present they amount to something so

insignificant that any port might well be ashamed to put them forward and glory in them as the result of seven years trial of a commercial policy. In 1863, our exports of merchandise to the American territory were \$384,000; in the following year, instead of showing the vigor and advantages of our free port by a great increase, we had the startling falling off of \$165,000; the exports to the above places for 1864 being \$219,000. This was bad enough, and might have shaken the confidence of any reasonable man, if it had not taught him a sounder experience; but there is something still worse to come. The past nine months show a continued diminution. To the American territory our exports have reached, for the three-quarters of a year just ended, \$129,675, which would give for the year \$172,769—showing a decrease of \$44,000. Our space will not admit of much further comment, but we will recur to the subject in our next.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

D. LINDSAY,
FORT STREET, VICTORIA, V.I.
ACCOUNTANT,
—AND—
OFFICIAL ASSESSOR
IN THE COURT OF BANKRUPTCY,
REAL ESTATE AGENT, HOUSE FAC-
TORY, ACCOUNTS COLLECTED,
LOANS NEGOTIATED, AND A
GENERAL BUSINESS
TRANSACTED.

REFERENCES IN VICTORIA.
G. M. SPREAT, Esq., ANDERSON, Esq.; E. GRANGIER,
Esq.; JOHN WRIGHT, Esq.; JAMES CAMPBELL,
Esq.
Settlements made every Tuesday.
Oct. 10

NOTICE.

Lowe Brothers,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
And importers of
Provisions, Groceries,
French Wines, Liquors,
HAVANA CIGARS,
Naval Stores, Ropes, Canvas, Oars, &c., &c.,
Wharf street, Victoria, V.I.
Oct. 11

Spratt & Kriemler,
IRON AND BRASS

Founders and Machinists

Albion Iron Works,
VICTORIA, V.I. Oct. 9

NEW GOODS!
EX
"PHILOMELA,"
And other Recent Arrivals.

STATIONERS' SMALL-WARES
FROM BIRMINGHAM,

With all the modern improvements comprising
COPYING AND SEAL PRESSES;
Damping Boxes, Pen Racks, Inkstands, as
soiled Paper Clips and Weights, Cash and
Deed Boxes, Writing Books, Cases and Boxes;
Gilt-top Steel Pens; Pens and Crimpers and
Cribbers; Card Cases, Metal Boxes, Dice;
Plate Cards, Pen Boxes, Other Boxes; Steel
Pins, and Shell Card Cases; Ivory Paper
Folders and Tablets; Artists' Materials; Metal
Casket Compasses; Spring Tape Measures;
Eyelid Machines; Ladies' Campaigns; Indelible
Ink, etc.

ALSO,—

A full assortment of the following
Writing Papers & Envelopes!

Blank Books; Memorandums and Page Books;
Almanacs; Metal Measuring Tools; Drawing
Pencils; Arnold's Copying Ink; Faber's
Crest Lewis; Arnold's Carnine; Hodges'
Pocket Cutters and Scissors; Winkles &
Newton's Water and Oil Colors; Mann's
Press Copying Books; Scrap Books; Rock-
well's Invoicing and Letter Filing; Exhibition
Prize Wax; Whatman's Drawing Paper, Tra-
ditional Drawing Paper; Great Mogul Playing Cards;
Bristol Board; Printing and Wrapping Paper;
Tissue and Fancy Paper; Blotting Paper.

Electic Bands; Mucilage; Newspaper Files; Law
yer's Tape; Note, Draft, Order and Receipt
Books; Bills of Exchange; Bills of Lading;
Bills Payable and Receivable Books; Blank
Legal and Shipping Forms, and other in-
numerable articles.

HIBBEN & CARSWELL,
Oct. 11

TO THE ELECTORS OF ESQUIMALT
AND METCHOSIN DISTRICTS.

GENTLEMEN:—

Encouraged by the promised support of many of
your number, I come forward to offer myself as a
candidate for the honorable position of being one
of your representatives in the House of As-
sembly.

Having already had the pleasure of laying before
you individually my views in relation to the
principal political topics of the day, it will be un-
necessary for me to do so again, and I will confine
myself to a brief statement of the principal
synopsis of the course which, in my humble
opinion, should be pursued as best calculated to
the welfare of the colony.

The Union of the two colonies I hold to be ab-
solutely indispensable to the advancement of both,
and every exertion should be used to accomplish
it.

The raising of a portion of the revenue by
import duties, I have always advocated, not only as
the fairest method whereby the burden of tax-
ation may be laid on all classes, but as the
most equitable and equitable to the agricultural
and other productive interests of the colony,
the growth of which is the well being of every
country, must mainly depend.

The "no" question of Union is the
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INCENDIARISM!

\$200 REWARD.

THE ABOVE REWARD WILL BE paid by the Agent of the Underwritten Insurance Companies, for the apprehension and conviction of the party or parties who fired the premises situated on Government Street, on the night of September 30th, 1865, LONDON AND LANCASHIRE, IMPERIAL, NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE, PHOENIX, Oct. 22, 1865. ocl

Supposed Incendiaries.

\$50 REWARD!

THE ABOVE REWARD WILL BE paid by Mr. Maurice Lister, to any person who shall give such information as may lead to the apprehension and conviction of the party or parties who have trespassed by night on the farm "Lochhead," Victoria, and committed such acts, as breaking and entering, and committing other depredations.

ROBERT BISHOP, Solicitor, Langley Street

OPPOSITION



STEAMER DAY!

THIRTEENTH OF EACH MONTH, FROM SAN FRANCISCO.

Opposition Steamship Line to New York via Nicaragua, CARRYING THE U. S. MAIL.

THE CENTRAL AMERICAN TRANSPORT COMPANY FOR PASSENGERS, BAGGAGE AND FREIGHT ON THE 14th of each month until further notice.

J. W. RAYMOND, Agent, Corner Battery and Pine Streets, San Francisco, May 1st, 1865. sec 51

NOTICE.

We have re-leased our old premises on Fort street for two years, and will re-open them on the first of October, proximo. As we have been enabled to do so at a considerable reduction, we are determined to let the public have the benefit of the same, and on and after the first of the month our charge for selling goods by Auction, when sales exceed \$500, will be 2 per cent instead of 5 per cent, as at present.

M. B.-Goods sent for sale on commission can have the benefit of our Policy of Insurance.

Daniel Scott & Co.

Auctioneers

Tobacco! Cigars!

226 Front Street.

SOLE IMPORTERS OF THE FOLLOWING brands of half pounds, equal in quality to the best Virginia:

PEACH OFFERING.

PEARL.

GOLDEN CHARM.

IMPERIAL.

CAMELIA.

Besides light pressed Natural Leaf of every description. Also by every tobacco, including of GENUINE HAVANA CIGARS, in bond or duty paid.

WEIL & CO., 226 Front street, SAN FRANCISCO, ap 6

REMOVAL.

CLOTHES CLEANING

AND RENOVATING!

A. BULER

HAM REMOVED HIS STORE FOR

Clothes Cleaning and Renovating, to the

bottom next to the Enterprise Saloon on Government Street, and nearly opposite the St. Nicholas Hotel.

133

Caledonian Benevolent Association ORGANIZED NOV. 11, 1863.

THE ABOVE ASSOCIATION

is formed by a combination of benevolent persons, and social interests, and based on the model of the Caledonian Highland Society of Scotland, is now in full working order.

The Association expects on the 1st of October, the same being taken to hold an annual gathering for competition in Highland Games, etc.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS.—The Bylaws are now strictly enforced.

JAMES HENDERSON, Secy.

A LARGE ASSORTMENT

PER LATE ARRIVALS,

—o—

Gosnell's & Rimmel's Soaps,

Perfumery, and Brushes,

—at—

LONDON PRICES!

BY

C. LANGLEY & CO., Wholesale & Retail Druggists,

205 YATES STREET, VICTORIA,

DANIEL SCOTT & CO.

AUCTIONEERS,

—AND—

Commission Merchants,

CITY AUCTION ROOMS.

Fort Street, next Wharf, VICTORIA, V. I.

£200 Cash advanced on Merchandise, to any amount, consigned for sale.

REFERENCE—Hon. F. Finlayson, of H. B. Co., and Lloyd's Agent.

Oct 6

\$20 REWARD.

THE ABOVE REWARD WILL BE

paid for information leading to the apprehension and conviction of the party or parties who have trespassed by night on the farm "Lochhead," Victoria, and committed other depredations.

ROBERT ANDERSON,

Lochhead, October 2nd.



The Invalid's Friend.

1865.

1000

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS

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REWARD.

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